



Wiregrass Ranch High School  
2909 Mansfield Boulevard  
Wesley Chapel, Florida 33543

## Newsletter-August 2014 From the Principal.....Robyn White

Welcome back class of 2015, 2016 and 2017. Welcome to the Ranch class of 2018. As summer vacations come to a close, it is now time to start thinking about all the wonderful opportunities afforded students at WRHS. As you make final plans to return to school, Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, please review all the important information provided on our website and in the newsletter. Summer assignments are available on the website and should be completed according to the timeline provided by teachers. Students scheduled in Honors or Advanced Placement courses please make sure work is completed to be successful on the first day of classes. If you do not see your classes listed, there are no summer assignments to be submitted. WRHS will always provide an environment of Rigor and Relevant curriculum, offering 21 Advanced Placement courses, many on campus PHSC Dual Enrollment courses for college credit, plus numerous industry certifications for students in our Information Technology Academy, Culinary Arts program, and our Academy of Medical Professionals. WRHS has a 21st century approach to learning - be prepared to use technology every day. Students have access to WIFI, use of their own laptops and mobile devices including I-Pods, smart phones, I-Pads and other tablets. Text messaging, email, Twitter and Facebook are services we provide parents and students with important updates to events at the school. Many textbooks are available on-line and provide tutorial help with assignments. With the use of technology come responsibilities to our students to prevent loss or theft. Students should **always** secure valuables and do not leave them unattended.

Because of the many successes of WRHS and the growth in our community, we are overcrowded and have important procedures to help make school a safe and quality school experience for all students, parents and staff. Please review this information as we provide this information on our website, newsletter, orientation days and through messages sent by text, email or telephone. Traffic in the morning is always busy. With 40 buses arriving, 500 student drivers, 200 employees and hundreds of parents driving students to school, you **must** arrive early to prevent being late to school. Entering the campus after 7:15 am may lead to students arriving late to class, impacting the quality of learning for everyone. Always follow the posted speed limits of 15 MPH at the entrance and 5 MPH in the parking lot areas. Entrance to the school is only accessible through the front entrance and everyone will exit through the service road by JLMS. This pattern will be followed in the morning and in the afternoon. In addition, the gates on the service road will be closed to traffic from 7:45 am to 1:00 pm. Everyone's safety is our number one priority. Arrive EARLY!

The start of the new school year brings with it both excitement and expectations. Please make sure you are familiar with the high school dress code as you make purchases prior to the start of school. Review with your child the attendance policy, tardy policy, and code of conduct information. All this information is available in the Student Planner that every child will review the first week of school, or visit our website for information.

Finally, please join our very successful PTSA, Band and/or Athletic Booster organization. All of these volunteers help make WRHS an excellent school to learn, visit and work. In addition, we are looking for volunteer mentors and tutors to assist our students. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer and helping to make WRHS the Number 1 school in the district, please complete the volunteer form online and contact the school for opportunities. We look forward to seeing everyone at Orientation Day and Open House. Contact WRHS @ 813-346-6000 or visit our web-site @<http://wrhs.pasco.k12.fl.us>  
Teacher hours - 7:00 - 2:30 pm    Classes in session - 7:30 - 1:55 pm    Student Services - 7:00 - 3:00 pm    Administration office hours - 7:00 - 4:00 pm

### Orientation Day & Senior Night

Wiregrass Ranch High School will host two orientations for students this August. The first orientation will be held August 11<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 7 p.m. and is open for the Senior Class of 2015 only. The second orientation is open to all students in grades 9 – 12 and will be August 12<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Both events will provide students with the opportunity to pick-up schedules, select lockers, verify transportation, and learn about the exciting academic, athletic and club programs available at Wiregrass Ranch High. Orientation Day will include a guided tour of the campus and answers to frequently asked questions about the school for any new student. For information regarding orientations, call the high school at (813) 346-6000.

### Student Fees payment option

Starting at registration on Monday, August 11, parents can use their credit or debit card (Visa, MasterCard, and Discover) to pay for all student fees and purchases, both in-person and online, with School Pay.

We're planning on having more than 20 readers set up to take credit card payment, so parents don't have to stand in a long line with their checkbook in hand. Hopefully, it makes registration faster and easier for everyone. After registration, parents can go online to School Pay to buy Bull spirit wear and other items. Please note that a transaction fee will be charged. We hope to add even more items to the store as the year progresses!

### Volunteering at the Ranch

The School Board of Pasco County requires that all volunteers must be approved prior to volunteering in any capacity in the school. All Volunteers must reapply each school year. Please visit our website at [wrhs.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://wrhs.pasco.k12.fl.us) and click on **Online Volunteer Application: Register Today!** Any student who would like to receive future volunteer opportunities can email Mrs. Batchelor @ [jbachelor@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:jbachelor@pasco.k12.fl.us) to be added to her volunteer email list. Volunteer opportunities are sent via email to students.

### Calendar

Senior Orientation Night (5-7 pm in Gym)	Aug .11
Orientation Day (8am to 2pm)	Aug. 12
11 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> grade in Gym	
9 <sup>th</sup> grade in Cafeteria	
First Day of School	Aug. 18
Labor Day Holiday (No School)	Sept. 1
Open House (6-8pm)	Sept. 15

### Portables and Rainy Days

With over 2300 students, we have 30 portables that most students will use during the day. Please plan on providing your child with rain gear or a small umbrella (to fit in book bag or locker) for rainy days. Florida weather is unpredictable and we do not cancel classes in the portables when it rains. Plan accordingly.

## PTSA

### Your PTSA Welcomes you Back to School!

Welcome back to the new school year! We hope all of our WRHS families had a fun and restful summer. We have many exciting events planned for the year.

The PTSA is here for you as an advocate and communication liaison. We keep parents informed about happenings at WRHS so that you can be an active participant in your child's high school experience. This is accomplished through e-mail blasts, PTSA's website, newsletters and General Assembly meetings. We share your questions and concerns with the administration and advocate on behalf of students and parents. So make sure you participate in some (if not all) that the PTSA has to offer.

#### ORIENTATION/REGISTRATION (August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>):

The WRHS PTSA will have **discount coupons** for **Yearbooks** and **Spirit Wear** when you become a PTSA member on Registration Day. **August 11<sup>th</sup>** 5pm-7pm, is **Registration Night** for Seniors and **August 12<sup>th</sup>** 8am-2pm, is **Registration Day** for all other grades.

#### PTSA GENERAL MEETING / OPEN HOUSE:

We welcome you to, and encourage you to participate in, the WRHS PTSA this year. Please join us at our first PTSA **General Assembly Meeting** on **September 15<sup>th</sup>** at 5:15pm in the Cafeteria. This is also the night of Open House which begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Gymnasium.

#### DRIVEN TO GIVE! (September 15<sup>th</sup>):

Once again the PTSA will be teaming up with The S.A.D.D. Club for a creative and exciting fundraising opportunity where test-driving Lincoln vehicles can result in **Big Cash Rewards For Our School!!!** On **September 15<sup>th</sup>** (Open House) from 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. PARKS Lincoln of Tampa will be on our WRHS Campus with a large selection of vehicles and they will donate \$20 for each test-drive up to \$6,000! So please don't forget to stop by their tent by the Cafeteria and take 10 minutes to test-drive a Lincoln.

#### SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS:

The PTSA will again be sponsoring a few graduating student members with a monetary scholarship. **Make sure that your Senior has joined PTSA by October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 in order to be eligible for these scholarships.** Scholarship Applications will be available in Student Services after the Winter Break. Look for future announcements in the newsletter as well as on our PTSA website.

On behalf of the WRHS PTSA Executive Board and all the volunteers who give their time so freely and enthusiastically, I thank you for your support. If at any time during the school year, you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at [president@wiregrassptsa.org](mailto:president@wiregrassptsa.org).

Again, welcome back and have a great year!

Thank you and GO BULLS!!,

Mari C. Blank

WRHS PTSA President

## Student Meal Prices

The student meal prices for 2014/15 are as follows: Breakfast \$1.50 Lunch \$2.60 (tier 1), \$3.00 (tier 2); Reduced Breakfast \$.30 Reduced Lunch \$.40 (tier 1 or 2). Free and Reduced lunch forms will be available at registration or online @ [www.pasco.k12.fl.us/nutrition/free\\_reduced](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/nutrition/free_reduced).

## Dress Code/Security of valuables

Students shall wear modest clothing of such style and design as shall be consistent with community standards as determined by the school principal. As you make summer back to school purchases, please make sure clothing meets the dress code requirements. Students must secure electronic devices, money, jewelry, etc. at all times. Failure to secure valuables may result in LOSS or theft, and the school is not responsible.

## Athletics & Activities

Boys and Girls golf will begin August 4th at 1:30 pm at Quail Hollow. Boys Coach - Mike Horrigan ([mhorriga@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:mhorriga@pasco.k12.fl.us)) Girls Coach – Jeremy Calzone ([jcalzone@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:jcalzone@pasco.k12.fl.us))

Volleyball tryouts on August 4th and 5<sup>th</sup>, 8 am – 10 am at WRHS Gym. Coach – Mindy Kantor ([mkantor@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:mkantor@pasco.k12.fl.us)) Volleyball summer training starts June 16th (at WRHS)

Swimming and Diving starts on August 4th at the New Tampa YMCA at 2:30pm. All athletic forms must be completed in order to participate. Any questions or concerns can be sent Girls Coach – Alisa Cimino ([acimino@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:acimino@pasco.k12.fl.us)) Boys Coach – TBD

Cross Country starts August 11th at 6:00pm (at WRHS) Girls Coach – Don Howard ([dhoward@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:dhoward@pasco.k12.fl.us)) Boys Coach – Chris Loth ([cloth@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:cloth@pasco.k12.fl.us)) Cross Country Summer Training is Monday – 6PM – 8:30PM @ San Antonio (Meet at Meadow Pointe I to carpool at 5:45PM) Tuesday thru Friday – 7AM – 9AM at WRHS Saturday – 7:30AM – 9AM at Flatwoods Park

Football starts on August 4th at 10:00am (at WRHS) Coach – TBD Football summer workouts are from 9:00-11:00 or 3:00-5:00 Mondays through Thursdays (2 sessions and you can come to 1 or both)

Boys Soccer summer workouts at WRHS 6:00-8:00 pm Boys Coach – Dave Wilson ([dawilson@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:dawilson@pasco.k12.fl.us))

## Additional Athletic Information

Any student that is interested in playing athletics that is new to WRHS (freshmen not included) must fill out a transfer packet in order to be eligible to participate. Packets may be obtained at the main office at WRHS. The Athletic Transfer Participation Committee for Pasco County will determine if the students is eligible to participate after the paperwork is submitted.

## Yearbooks

Welcome back! We are excited about another great school year and wanted to let you know the **WRHS yearbook is on sale now!**

**Yearbooks are on sale for \$60 now but the price will increase** on August 18, 2014. **Buy online** at [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com) or at school in room 4-104. Buy your yearbook today!

Senior Ads are a great way to congratulate and praise your graduating senior. Purchase an ad in the yearbook to show your student how much they mean to you. Ads are on sale online at [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com).

Senior/Business Ad prices:

Full page (up to 20 photos) \$300.00  
Half page (up to 10 photos) \$250.00  
Quarter page (up to 6 photos) \$200.00  
Eighth page (up to 3 photos) \$100.



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Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

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August 1, 2014